

## **Valley Newsmakers** **The Arizona Republic**



After his election victory in 2006, many wondered if Harry Mitchell, a former mayor of Tempe and state senator, could work effectively in the hectic, high-pressure world of Washington. Far from getting lost in the crowd, the Democrat quickly learned his way around Congress. Mitchell was known in Arizona for his consensus-building skills and his dedication to local concerns and put those traits to work in the nation's capital. He has gotten critical resources for his district, including funding for nurses, Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport, public-safety communications, an East Valley crime-data system and a Scottsdale park-and-ride.